

# HEALTH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ◆◆◆◆◆

## HEALTH CARE: CAREERS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

### Our mission:

Health Science and Technology Education prepares students for employment and/or continuing education opportunities in health care through technical instruction in the classroom, experiential education in the laboratory, work-based learning opportunities at clinical settings, and leadership skills through Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA).

### HEALTH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION PATHWAYS

The Utah Health Science and Technology Pathways are based on the national health care skills standards and national health science career cluster pathways. Through health science courses students can gain an important foundation of knowledge and skills necessary for continued education in health sciences.

The health care industry is robust and growing nationwide; however, it is actually experiencing a critical shortage of workers. These shortages are impacting the quality of care throughout the industry. An increased demand for qualified health professionals is expected to continue through the year 2012, resulting in 16 percent of all new wage and salary jobs.

Below are the ten Pathways in Health Science and Technology Education:

- Biotech Research & Development
- Biotechnology
- Health Informatics
- Medical Office Administrative Assistant
- Therapeutic Services
- Dental
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Surgical Technician
- Therapeutic Rehabilitation/Exercise

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATION

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) is the student organization for Health Science and Technology Education. HOSA is involved in leadership development, career training, and service projects. The primary focus of HOSA is to increase opportunities in health care careers and enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. HOSA provides students with opportunities to attain the knowledge, skills, and leadership characteristics necessary to succeed in a health care profession.

- Nationally there are over 80,000 members.  
[www.hosa.org](http://www.hosa.org)
- Utah has over 2,500 members in 65 chapters.\*  
[www.hosa.org/state/ut.html](http://www.hosa.org/state/ut.html)

### AREAS OF STUDY:

Agriculture  
Business  
Family & Consumer Sciences  
Health Science & Technology  
Information Technology  
Marketing  
Skilled & Technical Sciences  
Technology & Engineering



### NATIONAL RECOGNITION

In 2007, twenty-four Utah students placed in the top ten nationally in a variety of health care related competitions, ranking seventh in the nation. For 2008, Kristen Davidson from Northridge High School is the National HOSA Inc. Board of Directors Chair, Denise Abbott is the HOSA Inc. Region I Advisor, and Thalea Longhurst is the National HOSA Tabulations Committee Member.

### AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS

Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Youth Programs provide services to schools and students in rural and urban medically underserved areas. Services are focused on motivating students to pursue careers in health care.  
[www.ahec.utah.edu](http://www.ahec.utah.edu)

### CAREER PREPARATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Health Science and Technology Education is a program that motivates and prepares students for pursuit of a health care profession. The program is based on:

- Employment needs of the health care community.
- National Health Care Skill Standards.
- Individual needs of students.
- Health care leadership and technical skills.
- Post-secondary education requirements.

Utah's educational programs provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills for health care career opportunities in many diverse settings.

In 2007-2008, 12,409 students attained a substantial or sufficient level on the Health Science and Technology Education competency skill certificate tests, of which 8,427 demonstrated substantial skill at 80 percent or above. Student performance must be demonstrated in class as part of the skill certificate process.

In 2007-2008, students earned the following industry certificates: 798 as a Certified Nurse Assistant, 54 as an Emergency Medical Technician, and 91 as a Pharmacy Technician.

### SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

- 29 from Career and Technical Education Scholarship Program
- 7 from ARUP
- 4 from Utah Hospital Association
- 3 from Intermountain Healthcare
- 1 from Army ROTC

### STATE AND LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

ARUP	Intermountain Healthcare
American Red Cross	Utah Department of Health
Area Health Ed. Centers	Utah Hospital Association

**Our vision** is to provide awareness and exploration experiences that motivate students to pursue a profession in health care. Once students are motivated, it is our intent to prepare students for continued education and/or employment opportunities in health care.

\* The HOSA service project for 2007-2008 is Blood Services. The national HOSA service project for 2007-2008 is Autism Speaks.

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